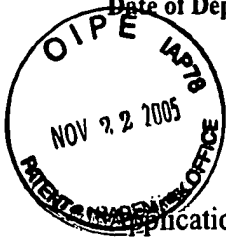


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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Application Number : 09/936,095 Confirmation No. 9297

Applicant : Stemple, *et al.*

Filed : June 6, 2002

TC/A.U. : 1637

Examiner : Teresa E. Strzelecka

Docket No. : 18921-001 Natl

Customer No. : 35437

For : **A METHOD FOR DIRECT NUCLEIC ACID SEQUENCING**

MAIL STOP AF
Commissioner for Patents
P. O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

**AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE TO FINAL OFFICE ACTION
DATED MAY 23, 2005**

Sir:

In response to the Final Office Action mailed May 23, 2005 in the above-identified application, Applicants submit this Amendment and Response under 37 C.F.R. §1.116. A Petition for a Three-Month Extension of Time, up to and including November 23, 2005, and the necessary fee are enclosed. Applicants respectfully request entry and consideration of this after-final Amendment and accompanying papers in the application.

Amendments to the Specification begins on page 2 of this paper.

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 3 of this paper.

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 6 of this paper.

Conclusion begins on page 10 of this paper.